

"Now, as I prepare to hand power over to a new administration at noon on Wednesday, I want you to know that the movement we started is only just beginning. There's never been anything like it. The belief that a nation must serve its citizens will not dwindle, but instead, only grows stronger by the day. As long as the American people hold in their hearts, deep and devoted love of country, then there is nothing that this nation can not achieve. Our communities will flourish. Our people will be prosperous. Our traditions will be cherished. Our faith will be strong and our future will be brighter than ever before. I go from this majestic place with a loyal and joyful heart, an optimistic spirit, and a supreme confidence that for our country and for our children, the best is yet to come. Thank you and farewell. God bless you. God bless the United States of America."

RECOGNIZING THE WORK OF  
MELISSA KIEDROWICZ ELLISON

**HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 21, 2021*

Ms. SÁNCHEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a trusted advisor, Melissa Kiedrowicz Ellison, who has been an invaluable member of my team for more than a decade. Melissa first joined my staff as an intern in the 111th Congress and has served the people of the district I represent as a Legislative Correspondent, Legislative Assistant, Legislative Director, and as my Deputy Chief of Staff. Melissa has always been a steady hand, helping me carry out my duties as a member of the House Select Committee on Benghazi, Chair of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, and as Vice Chair of the House Democratic Caucus during the 115th Congress.

Melissa has been by my side through countless hours of markups and hearings on difficult issues before the Committee on Ways and Means. Her grace under pressure, expertise, and leadership have been extraordinary assets in guiding my legislative efforts to combat

the COVID-19 pandemic and help working families recover from the greatest challenge we have faced in generations. Melissa always strived to make a meaningful difference in the lives of the constituents we serve, and she ensured Team Sánchez worked with common purpose in the halls of Congress and in the 38th District to do so. Thanks to Melissa's tenacity, I was proud to secure passage of 13 bills through the U.S. House of Representatives on her watch.

Melissa is known for her witty sense of humor, unfailing loyalty, and an appreciation for all things Disney.

I am so proud that Melissa will be bringing that magic to the Ways and Means Committee as the new Director of Outreach and Member Services. Her rich knowledge of the Committee will be a boon to Chairman NEAL and all of our members as we redouble our efforts to defeat the COVID-19 pandemic and rebuild an economy that benefits all working families. Though Melissa is leaving my office, I am so glad she is remaining in the Ways and Means Committee family and she will forever be a valued family member of Team Sánchez. I cannot wait to see all her future accomplishments as her career unfolds.